

Daily Confederate.

O. N. McRAE, A. M. GORMAN
EDITORS.

All letters on business of the Office, to be directed to A. M. GORMAN & CO.,

MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 1865.

New Rates.
SUBSCRIPTION AND ADVERTISING.
From and after the 16th instant, the following will be the rates of this paper for subscriptions and advertising:
Daily one month, \$10
Daily three months, 20
Daily six months, 40
Tri-Weekly three months, 15
Tri-Weekly six months, 30
Weekly three months, 10
Weekly six months, 20
Advertising per square, 50

Attack on Fort Fisher Renewed.

We learn from the Wilmington Journal of Saturday, that about eleven o'clock on Thursday night a fleet of over sixty vessels made its appearance off our coast opposite Battery Gattin, which is some five miles above Fort Fisher and near the head of the Sound. Heavy guns were heard yesterday morning in that direction, no doubt intended to cover the landing of troops which was commenced about daylight, and before 9 o'clock a tripartite had been thrown on shore, and they were still landing. We are not yet apprised of the probable numbers of the enemy's land force, or of its composition, nor under whose command it is, nor Butler's probably—certainly not, if the report of his removal be true. One rumor says that General Terry is in command. Another says that Webb is. Porter is no doubt in command of the naval part of the expedition, and the whole is no doubt made simultaneously with an advance by Sherman upon some point in South Carolina.

There is comparatively little excitement in town. Troops have been sent out to the proper points, and may, ere this, be engaged with the enemy. Our military leaders are at their posts, and we look for some sharp work.

Chagrined by the failure of the late attack, the enemy will probably make a desperate effort to redeem their credit. Porter, we think, will be especially desperate, since, after causing all the blame for the late failure upon Butler, he will be in danger of having it fall back upon himself.

After all, the movement here at this time is a secondary and merely co-operative one, intended to facilitate the advance of Sherman.

At the date of the last advance last night no infantry fighting had taken place. Communication was open.

The Goldboro' State Journal of yesterday, says at 7 o'clock on Friday morning the enemy opened on Fort Fisher from sixty vessels, and during the entire day some one hundred and fifty shots per minute were rained into the work. The experience of the last attempt to reduce the fort does not seem to have changed or modified the mode of attack at first agreed upon. The vessels are off where they formerly landed the troops and the landing on this occasion is very little higher up than before.

The great drawback upon the late expedition has been cut off from this. Butler has been removed, and seems, and a new military man put in his place. What success will this expedition meet with? We expect to see an increased effort at all events, on the part of the Yankees. They are writhing under the mortification of their late disgraceful failure. At the same time we are satisfied that they have not yet felt the power of Fort Fisher, and it will be exerted in proportion to the requirements of the service. We promise the land portion of this expedition a most interesting reception. We know not the strength of the enemy's land force, but we know when it will have to encounter. Hook knows how to post his men as well as how to fight them. Gen. Whiting commands at Fort Fisher, and Gen. Bragg commands the whole. We will doubtless hear further during to-day and to-night.

City Election.

The election for a Mayor and City Commissioners takes place to-day. The candidates are numerous, and the electioneering will no doubt be very active. We are glad to believe that some interest is felt in the election of such men, as will take upon themselves the trouble to look to the protection and welfare of the place. Our sister cities of Charlotte and Salisbury have recently suffered severely by fire—one or both of which, it is strongly suspected, were the work of incendiaries. Unless our City authorities are vigilant and wary, we may have like calamities visited upon Raleigh. We hope therefore that such men will be chosen as will see that we have a vigilant and trustworthy Police—men who will feel the importance of the trust committed to them, and keep a strict watch upon all suspicious persons who may be found loitering about town, and hold them to a strict accountability. Our negro population also need a closer surveillance, both for their own good and that of their owners. We trust the new Board elected to-day may enter upon some reforms that are badly needed, and give evidence of a sense of the responsibility which their fellow-citizens have entrusted them.

Resignations.—Col. S. D. Bryson, of the 25th Regiment, and at present Senator from Macon, Haywood, Jackson and Cherokee, has resigned his position as Lt. Col. of the 25th Regiment, and Lt. S. D. Hampton, 60th Reg't. N. C. Troops, has resigned.

Newspaper strictures do not change the opinion of the President, while they do have a depressing effect on the people.

Important For Us.

Two events have just transpired very important both of them, for us. One of them is the removal of Butler, the Beast, and his order to report at Lowell, Massachusetts. We presume there is some cause among the factory girls, which the courageous Butler is required to subdue. We had hoped that this famous warrior would have been retained in his command. When Abner of Gothic memory, departed this life, Adolphus, his successor, set to work a number of laborers, and having diverted the river from its original course, buried him in the ancient bed of the stream; and the more effectually to hide the remains out of the knowledge of men, he caused the workmen to be put to death and buried them likewise. Now, in one point of view, Butler and Abner are alike—both are brutes and both barbarians, and we had hoped to have given our Gothic a similar disposal. The Dutch Gap canal approaches completion; when the last spadeful of earth is dug out, it is expected that the James river will take the new direction; in which case the old bed is a neat grave, dug to hand, for Butler, his workmen and assistants. It is a pity he loses the opportunity of such distinction.

The other event we spoke of, is the arrest of the Honorable H. S. Foote, at Occoquan, on his way to Washington—that refuge of oppressed liberty (which he speaks so eloquently in his last speech in Congress). But why arrest him? We are glad to see the government did not order it. The very best luck that could befall the Confederacy in connection with Mr. Foote, would be his exit out of it. He can do us no harm, except by staying in it. And the same may be said of all his coadjutors. If we could pick up one and all the votaries of his kind of peace, and export them with himself across the borders, the Confederacy might well bid them good speed, with a devout wish never to "look upon their like again." Let the people remember what we have often told them—the natural inclination of this set of peace negotiators is towards Yankeeedom. Sooner or later, if the Yankees don't come to them, they will go to the Yankees, or be caught attempting it.

Our adversaries rightly used, will do us good. The chief will be winnowed from the wheat, and each to its appropriate destiny. Let but Congress do its duty, and all will be well.

The Crisis and our Duty.

The enemy are again battering at the walls of Fort Fisher, and every effort will be made to relieve the discomfited and beleaguered. They received on their Christmas attack. They have doubtless come with increased force, and with a different object in command of their land force; but with the blessing of God upon the skill and courage of our brave men there, this renewed attack will fail utterly and disastrously, as did the former. This success, coming as it did after a long series of defeats and losses, did much to inspire our people with hope and trust again, carried rejoicing from one end of the Confederacy to the other, and exerted a most happy influence upon the minds of our soldiers and people.

If we would have a reputation of victory, the people must rally to the support and assistance of our soldiers, and giving up the leins of our minds, confront the thick coming dangers with dauntless spirit, resolving never to yield, and to do our utmost to thwart the cruel purposes of the beastly foe.

Our officers and soldiers below Wilmington have shown themselves true as steel, and it will be a crowning achievement if they shall be successful in repelling the imposing armada again brought against them. But the citizens of Wilmington and of the Eastern counties generally, must not expect them to accomplish impossibilities. As this journal remarked on a former occasion, those who wish faithful representatives, must show a prompt and ready willingness to aid their endeavors, and should adhere to and confide in them. Our own people can render valuable assistance. Let there be to it that they spare no exertion; for the defense of the threshold can be more easily maintained than the defense of the habitation after the enemy has entered.

New Advertisements.

"Many Voters" announce Dr. Wm. H. McKee for reelection as Commissioner from the Eastern Ward.

S. W. Scott has "gone to the front," but is a candidate for reelection as Commissioner.

Gov. Manly offers \$500 Reward for a runaway boy.

Dr. Hines, Medical Director, publishes a list of Hospital Purchasing Agents this morning.

Sherman's Movements.

It seems to be generally conceded that Sherman, after having traversed the State of Georgia and arrived at Savannah, and captured that city "without impediments," will not long remain idle there. His final objective point is Lee's army. To effect that army he cut the railroads throughout his line of march in Georgia, since it is known that Southwestern Georgia has been one of the grand sources of supply for the army of Northern Virginia. To further interfere with the supplies of that army and to cut off military communication by railroad he will be certain to aim his next blow at the railroad of South Carolina, his primary point probably being Branchville, and incidentally, Charleston, and first, and primarily, Branchville, we think.

We should not be at all surprised to learn that his movement has already commenced; and that his troops are even now in motion. Circumstances seem to point to that conclusion. One of these circumstances is the renewal of the attack on demonstration against Wilmington, and especially against the defenses of its harbor. As yet we cannot assign to that movement its proper character, whether as a reit or a real attack—whether simply intended as a diversion, or seriously designed to attempt the reduction of our forts. Either way, we think it is so timed as to cooperate with any movement made by the enemy operating at the South. If they can do anything here, so much the better, they will, and even if they cannot, they no doubt calculate that they can succeed in obtaining a certain amount of force here, and thus removing that much of opposition out of the way of Sherman's movement from Savannah.

We will know something more about this matter before going to press. Our people are cool, and exhibit no nervousness. —Wilmington Journal.

Fire in Salisbury.

About 7 o'clock yesterday morning, Mr. J. H. Ennis' building (better known as the old George Brown house) was discovered to be on fire. It had made, comparatively little progress, when first discovered, but owing to the very combustible nature of the buildings, all efforts to arrest the flames proved useless until the houses from M. W. Murphy's brick row, following the stream, and to that of Jas. H. Ennis' (now used as a Commissary depot), were laid in ashes. Several of the rooms consumed were occupied by officers of the government as Commissary and Quartermaster depots, workshops, &c., but the portable property belonging to the government or individuals, was destroyed. Mr. Carver's house occupied rooms in the Ennis building as store and residence, lost every thing. Mr. Ennis himself who was carrying on a shoe factory for the government, lost between eight and ten thousand dollars worth of leather. The Government's loss in leather, tools, &c., probably amounts to eighty thousand dollars. Its loss in the Quartermaster's department was comparatively small. The owners of the buildings consumed, Messrs. Ennis, Ennis, and McKee & Young, and the Messrs. Hall are the principal sufferers.

The Government loss of leather in Mr. Ennis' factory, was owing to the fact that the fire occurred in a room immediately under the leather, rendering it absolutely impossible to remove it.

The Commissary lost nothing except what was appropriated by others in the confusion. The Quartermaster's loss was greatest in this way, also; though his private loss was considerable.

The fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary. It originated in a room of the Ennis building occupied by Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith was absent and his store was closed, but the incendiary, who perpetrated the deed, it is believed, entered this room, set fire to the building, and to close the doors. No one has, as yet, been identified as the guilty party, but strong suspicions rest upon several who are universally objects to the community, as well as disloyal to the South.

We were in hopes that the fire which recently occurred at Charlotte, under very suspicious circumstances, would prove a warning to our people which would inspire increased vigilance, against a like disaster, but it seems that it was not so. And even now we fear that many of our people will be slow to believe that we have a band of incendiaries in our midst, brought over by the enemy to burn our towns, destroy our commodities, and to do us in whatever way they may. To suppose that there is nothing that seems more evident, we hear of fires in all directions. No body knows how they originate. It is assumed that it is the work of an incendiary. The people accept it as satisfactory, and assume their wonted security—fatal, criminal security. Let them awake from their lethargy. We have enemies in our midst—mortal enemies to our cause and government. Let there be vigilance committees instituted in every town and village, and they will be likewise prisoners. The incendiary Hunter (who is in his shirt-sleeve) requested to be allowed to go into the house for his coat, which was granted by Lane. The three hunters walked into the house, and in a few moments appeared at the door, each heavily armed, the senior leading the way, brandishing two large bowie knives, the sons with Colt's army pistols in hand. As soon as they cleared the enclosure, Pat Hunter remarked to Dr. Columbus Mills, "I will kill you, you d-d old rascal," making at the same time rapid strides toward the Doctor, and calling upon his sons to follow him, to say, that they were likewise prisoners. The senior Hunter (who is in his shirt-sleeve) requested to be allowed to go into the house for his coat, which was granted by Lane. The three hunters walked into the house, and in a few moments appeared at the door, each heavily armed, the senior leading the way, brandishing two large bowie knives, the sons with Colt's army pistols in hand. 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